

FIRE SAFETY FOR THE **HOLIDAYS**

FROM YOUR SAFETY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

- Ensure fresh trees are moist
- Cut the trunk straight to help it "drink". Cut at least one inch from the original cut even if the original cut was made that same day (this will help your tree absorb water).
- Place trees away from heat sources
- Place the tree in a sturdy stand with cold water
- Always use outdoor lights outside and indoor lights inside
- Never use electric lights on a metal tree as the tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights and a person touching the tree could be electrocuted.
- Turn off all Christmas lights when you go to bed or leave the house
- Never burn gift wrappings in your fireplace or woodstove. They can ignite suddenly and cause flash fires. Never burn a tree in your fireplace. The combination of dry branches, pitch, and tree oils can ignite within seconds, sending sparks and flames into the room.
- Remove all combustibles from within three feet of your fireplace
- When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant"
- Test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detector